

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 082959
ORIGIN IO-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

66011
DRAFTED BY IO/HDC:JJBUCZACKI:DD
APPROVED BY IO/HDC:RANDREW
-----140606Z 061213 /22
R 132003Z APR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 8074

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 082959

FOL REPEAT SOFIA 747 ACTION US CUSTOMS WASHDC SECSTATE
INFO VIENNA DEA WASHDC PARIS ROME USIA ANKARA NATO DTD 12 APR.

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0747

E.O. 11652 NA
TAGS SNAR, BU, PFOR, US
SUBJECT: BULGARIAN PRESS CONFERENCE ON NARCOTICS TRAFFIC
SUPPRESSION HIGHLIGHTS US/BULGARIAN COOPERATION

USIA PASS IBS/PE
STATE FOR S/NM AND EUR/EE
CUSTOMS FOR IOD
PARIS AND ROME FOR DEA AND CUSTOMS
VIENNA FOR WALTZ

REF: SOFIA0378

1. GOB HELD TWO-HOUR PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 30 35 MINUTES OF
WHICH WAS SUBSEQUENTLY BROADCAST ON PRIME TIME TV (2030)
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 082959

FOLLOWING NEWS EVENING MARCH 31, REGARDING BULGARIAN EFFORTS TO
INTERDICT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC ACROSS BULGARIA. DISCUSSIM OF
US/BULGARIAN COOPERATION IN FIELD PLAYED PROMINENT PART IN
BROADCAST.

2. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED BULGARIAN CUSTOMS DIRECTOR LAZAR
BONEV, RECENT VISITOR TO US AS PARTICIPANT IN SENIOR-LEVEL

OBSERVATION PROGRAM OF US CUSTOMS; MRS. ALEKSANDRINA KOCHKOVA OF STATE CHEMIST'S ADMINISTRATION OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH; AND NIKOLOV STOICHEV OF CHIEF PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE. BONEV DISCUSSED PROBLEM PRESENTED BY BULGARIA'S LOCATION ASTRIDE MAIN DRUG TRAFFIC ROUTE BETWEEN PRODUCING MIDDLE EAST AND CONSUMING WESTERN EUROPE AND US. HE THEN DISCUSSED EFFORTS OF SMALL BULGARIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE TO MEET THIS PROBLEM, PROVIDING STATISTICS ON 1976 SEIZURES (REPORTED REFTEL). HIS DISCUSSION OF TECHNIQUES OF INTERDICTION APPEARED TO DRAW UPON INFORMATION GAINED DURING HIS VISIT TO US.

3. BONEV STRESSED THAT INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WAS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION AND SPOKE OF VALUE OF COOPERATION OF "ESPECIALLY MY AMERICAN COLLEAGUES" IN THAT REGARD. HE ALSO MADE POINT THAT COOPERATION IN NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION WAS CONSISTENT WITH CSCE FINAL ACT, A NEW PRE-BELGRADE TACK FOR GOB.

4. HEALTH MINISTRY OFFICIAL KOCHKOVA'S PRESENTATION OUTLINED PROCEDURE FOLLOWED BY STATE CHEMIST ADMINISTRATION IN RECEIVING AND DESTROYING NARCOTICS SEIZED BY BULGARIAN CUSTOMS. COMMENT: HER STATEMENTS PROBABLY WERE INTENDED TO DAMPEN REPORTS THAT GOB RESELLS SEIZED NARCOTICS IN WEST. END COMMENT) STOICHEV OF STATE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OUTLINED PENALTIES FOR DRUG VIOLATORS IN BULGARIAN PENAL CODE AND STRESSED STRICTNESS OF ENFORCEMENT. (BONEV HAD PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED THAT NO BULGARIANS HAD YET BEEN INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC INTERDICTED BY CUSTOMS.)

5. MIDDLE SEGMENT OF PRESS CONFERENCE CONSISTED OF TEN-MINUTE FILM ON DRUG PROBLEM AND ACTIVITIES OF BULGARIAN CUSTOMS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 082959

SERVICE. INTRODUCTION TO FILM INCLUDED "THANKS TO OUR AMERICAN COLLEAGUES" FOR PRODUCTION ASSISTANCE AND SOME SEGMENTS. FILM OPENED WITH SCENES OF SUFFERING ENGLISH-SPEAKING ADDICTS AND THEN SHOWED BULGARIAN CUSTOMS OFFICERS IN ACTION AT BORDERS, INSPECTING VEHICLES, QUESTIONING TRAVELLERS AND DISCOVERING CACHES OF NARCOTICS. SEGMENT ON TRAINING OF BULGARIAN CUSTOMS OFFICERS INCLUDED 70-SECOND CLIP OF US CUSTOMS OFFICIAL HAROLD BARBAGELATA ADDRESSING BULGARIAN CUSTOMS OFFICIALS (PROBABLY AT LAST SUMMER'S TRAINING SESSION) AND COMPLIMENTING BULGARIAN CUSTOMS ON ITS EFFICIENCY. VOICEOVER NOTED THAT BULGARIAN/US COOPERATION HAD "FULLY EQUAL VALUE" FOR BOTH SIDES.

6. BONEV HAS ALSO SENT LETTER TO US CUSTOMS COMMISSIONER ACREE (WHICH EMBASSY IS POUCHING), EXPRESSING THANKS FOR VISIT AND PROVIDING INFORMATION (PREVIOUSLY REPORTED REFTEL) REGARDING BULGARIAN ACHIEVEMENTS IN FIELD OF NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION DURING 1976.
HERZ

UNQUOTE VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DRUG CONTROL, DRUG TRAFFIC, PRESS CONFERENCES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE082959
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JJBUCZACKI:DD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770129-0260
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770461/aaaacalr.tel
Line Count: 117
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9e4eb2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SOFIA 378
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2818348
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BULGARIAN PRESS CONFERENCE ON NARCOTICS TRAFFIC SUPPRESSION HIGHLIGHTS US/BULGARIAN COOPERATION USIA
PASS IBS/PE
TAGS: SNAR, PFOR, SOPN, BU, US
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9e4eb2a5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009